



Sergeant Major José Quinones Jr.
Sergeant Major, Rapid Equipping Force
Fort Belvoir, Virginia



Sergeant Major Jose Quinones Jr. became the senior enlisted advisor for the U.S. Army's Rapid Equipping Force (REF) in May 2013. Reporting directly to the senior leadership of the Army, the REF harnesses current and emerging technologies to provide rapid solutions for urgent combat requirements faced by Soldiers on today's battlefield. The Department of the Army formed the REF in 2002 to support warfighter requirements in Afghanistan, and during the past ten years, the REF has met challenges as diverse as; defeating improvised explosive devices, increasing Army contingency operation energy efficiency, gathering blast effect data to better understand traumatic brain injury and improving ISR efforts in austere locations. As a senior Special Forces noncommissioned officer, SGM Quinones provides critical links with special operators throughout the Army.

SGM Quinones was born in Arecibo, Puerto Rico, and later resided and joined the U.S. Army in Killeen, Texas. He enlisted in the Army under the Delayed Entry Program on June 11, 1983, and completed basic training and Infantry Advanced Initial Training at Fort Benning, GA as an Infantryman (11BC2).

SGM Quinones' career assignments include: United States Army Special Forces Command ACoS G8 Sergeant Major, Fort Bragg, NC; Combined Forces Special Operations Component Command G35 Sergeant Major, North Kabul Compound, Afghanistan; S2 NCOIC, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Fort Bragg, NC; Team Sergeant Special Forces Operational Detachment Alpha-782 and 776, Fort Bragg, NC; S3 Operations SGM/NCOIC, 3rd Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Fort Bragg, NC; Operations Sergeant, Special Forces Operational Detachment Bravo-770, Co. A, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Fort Bragg, NC; Intelligence Sergeant and Senior Weapons Sergeant Special Forces Operational Detachment Alpha-782, Fort Bragg, NC; Instructor Writer (Spanish), United States Army School of the Americas, Fort Benning, GA; Scout Platoon Sergeant and Team Leader, 9th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division (L), Fort Ord, CA; Squad Leader and Team Leader, Co. A, 1st BN, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division (L), Schofield Barracks, HI; Rifleman, 2nd BN, 4th INF, 56th Field Artillery Brigade, Neu Ulm, FRG.

SGM Quinones has deployed numerous times to SOUTHCOM and PACOM AORs. Additionally, he participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom and conducted five tours in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

His military awards include: Bronze Star Medal (3OCL); Meritorious Service Medal (3OCL); Joint Commendation Medal; Army Commendation Medal (4OLC); Joint Service Achievement Medal; Army Achievement Medal (4OLC); Army Good Conduct Medal (9BARB); National Defense Service Medal (2Stars); Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; NCO Professional Developmental Ribbon (4Numeral); Army Service Ribbon; Overseas Ribbon (2Numeral);



NATO Medal; Valorous Unit Award; Superior Unit Award; Special Forces Tab; Ranger Tab; Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge; Master Parachutist; Air Assault.

SGM Quinones' military education includes the following: Army Force Management Course, Fort Belvoir, VA, United States Army Sergeants Major Academy, Fort Bliss, TX; Special Forces Advanced Noncommissioned Officers Course, Fort Bragg, NC; Infantry Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course, Schofield Barracks, HI; Primary Leadership Development Course, Schofield Barracks, HI; Sniper Course Level I, Fort Bragg, NC; Mountain Warfare School (Summer Session), Jericho, VT; Jumpmaster School, Fort Benning, GA; Special Operations Training, Fort Bragg, NC; Instructor Training Course (Spanish), Fort Benning, GA; Air Assault School, Schofield Barracks, HI; Ranger School, Fort Benning, GA; Special Forces Qualification Course, Fort Bragg, NC; Special Forces Advanced Urban Combat Course, Fort Bragg, NC; Long Range Surveillance Course, Fort Benning, GA.

SGM Quinones earned a Bachelor of Science Degree and Homeland Security Certificate from Excelsior College, Albany, NY, and is a graduate of Ellison High School, Killeen, TX. He is currently pursuing a Masters Degree in Homeland Securities from Webster University.